

Semester	III
Course	U.G
Paper Code	C2HS230311T
Paper Title	Early Medieval Indian History: C. 500 CE – 1206 CE
No. of Credits	4
Theory / Practical / Composite	Theory
Minimum No. of preparatory hours per week a student has to devote	
Number of Modules	2
Syllabus	<p>Module 1 (18 Lectures)</p> <p>I. STUDYING EARLY MEDIEVAL INDIA:</p> <p>a. The Concept of Early Medieval India</p> <p>b. Interpreting the Sources: Textual, Archaeological, Epigraphic and Numismatic data; Architecture, Sculpture and other tangible evidence.</p> <p>II. Issues in Early Medieval India:</p> <p>a. The Feudalism Debate</p> <p>b. The Segmentary State</p> <p>c. Rise of the Rajputs</p> <p>d. Evolution of the Political Structures: Rashtrakutas, Palas, Pratiharas, and Cholas</p> <p>e. Legitimization of kingship; brahmanas and temples; royal genealogies and rituals</p> <p>III. Arab and Turkish Conquests:</p> <p>a. Arab conquest of Sindh: nature and impact</p> <p>b. Causes and consequences of early Turkish invasions: Mahmud of Ghazna; Shahab-ud-Din of Ghur</p> <p>Module 2 (18 Lectures)</p> <p>I. Economy in Early Medieval India:</p> <p>(a) The Agrahara system: agricultural expansion.</p> <p>(b) Trade and Commerce: Inter-regional trade; Maritime Trade</p> <p>(c) Forms of Exchange</p> <p>(d) Merchant Guilds</p> <p>(e) ‘Third Urbanization’</p> <p>II. The Social Structure-</p> <p>a. Landlords and peasants</p> <p>b. Proliferation of castes; status of untouchables</p> <p>c. Tribes as peasants and their place in the Varna order</p>

	<p>III Religious Trends-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Growth of the Bhakti movement: Nayanmars and Alvars b. Vaishnavism, Shaivism and Shaktism c. Proliferation of Tantric rituals d. Evolution of the Buddhism and Jainism e. Islamic Intellectual Traditions <p>IV Cultural Developments-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Regional languages and literature b. Art and Architecture: Evolution and Regional Styles.
Learning Outcomes	<p>This paper will help the students to develop a thorough understanding of the socio-religious-cultural-political and economic changes that took place during the Early Medieval Period. It will also introduce the students to new research and approach regarding various issues of the period thus helping in broadening their historical understanding. They will acquire knowledge about important debates, ideas and concepts which will help them to understand how the various aspects of this period evolved, having both continuity and changed features.</p>
Reading/Reference Lists	<p>ESSENTIAL READING-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. D.N. Jha, Ancient India in Historical Outline, Manohar Publishers & Distributors, 2020 2. D.D. Kosambi- The Culture and Civilization of Ancient India in Historical Outline, Vikas Publishing House Pvt Ltd,

	<p>1997</p> <p>.. R.S. Sharma- Indian Feudalism, Laxmi Publications, 2008</p> <p>3. R.S. Sharma, Urban Decay in India, Munshiram Manoharlal, 1987</p> <p>4. Romila Thapar, The Penguin History of Early India: From the Origins to AD 1300, Penguin India, 2003</p> <p>5. Upinder Singh, A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India, 2008.</p> <p>6. Upinder Singh, Rethinking Early Medieval India: A Reader, New Delhi, 2011</p> <p>7. Ranabir Chakravarti, Trade and Traders in Early Indian Society, Manohar Publishers and Distributors, 2007</p> <p>8. Ranabir Chakravarti, Trade in Early India, OUP, 2004</p> <p>9. Ranabir Chakravarti, Exploring Early India (Up to c.</p> <p>10. K. A. N. Sastri, ed., History of South India, OUP, 1966.</p> <p>11. B. D. Chattopadhyaya, Making of Early Medieval India, Delhi, 1994</p> <p>12. B.D. Chattopadhyaya, Studying Early India: Archaeology, Texts and Historical Issues, New Delhi, 2003.</p> <p>13. Kunal Chakrabarti and Kanad Sinha. Eds. State, Power and Legitimacy: The Gupta Kingdom, Delhi, 2018.</p> <p>14. Noburo Karashima ed. A Concise History of South India, Delhi, 2004.</p> <p>15. K. Veluthat, The Early Medieval in South India, New Delhi, 2010.</p> <p>16. R. Champakalakshmi, Trade, Ideology and Urbanisation: South India 300 BC to AD 1300, Oxford University Press, Delhi, 1996.</p> <p>SUGGESTED READING</p> <p>1. D.C. Sircar, Indian Epigraphy, Motilal Banarsidas, 2017</p> <p>2. Kunal Chakrabarti, Religious Process: The Puranas and the Making of a Regional Tradition, OUP 2001</p> <p>3. Daud Ali, Courtly Culture and Political Life in Early Medieval India, CUP 2006</p> <p>4. Hermann Kulke, ed The State in India 1000-1700 OUP 1995</p> <p>5. Suchandra Ghosh and Urvi Mukhopadhyay eds., Exploring South Asian Urbanity, Routledge India, London, 2021.</p> <p>6. Pratyay Nath and Kaustabh Mani Sengupta, Itihaser Bitarka Bitarker Itihas, Kolkata, 2022</p>	
Evaluation	<p>Theory</p> <p>CIA:5+ Mid Sem:20+</p> <p>Attendance: 5</p> <p>Semester Exam: 70</p>	
Paper Structure for Theory Semester Exam	<p>End Semester Exam: 70</p> <p>Two modules of 35 marks each.</p> <p>(3 questions of 5 marks from 5 options: 3X5=15</p> <p>2 questions of 10 marks from 3 options: 2X10=20)</p>	